



CITY OF TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING 5300 BLOCK EAST FERRY DRIVE

On April 24, 2013 at 1:20 p.m., the Tucson Police Department received a 911 call regarding suspicious activity at a residence in the 5300 block of East Ferry Drive. A female reported that an unknown male was inside the doghouse in her back yard. Officer David Ortiz and Officer Anthony Flores responded and located a male suspect in the backyard. The subject was armed with a handgun and both officers fired their duty weapons striking him multiple times. The subject was pronounced deceased at the scene. Neither officer was injured during the incident.

Detectives from the Homicide Unit and personnel from the Office of Internal Affairs responded to continue the investigation. Detectives determined that Officer Ortiz and Officer Flores made contact with the homeowner in front of her home as they arrived on scene. The officers then made entry through the front door of her home and exited her back door in an attempt to locate the subject. As the officers exited into the back yard, they immediately saw the subject crouched down inside of a makeshift doghouse just outside the back door. The subject was armed with a handgun. The officers drew their service weapons and began giving verbal commands to the subject. The subject did not comply with the verbal commands and began to raise the weapon towards the officers. Both officers fired their weapons and the subject was struck multiple times. Detectives further determined that the subject in the doghouse was unknown to the homeowner and had no legal reason to be in the backyard.

The subject located in the doghouse was identified as 33-year old Robert Lopez. Next of kin have been notified. Officer David Ortiz is an 8-year veteran of the Tucson Police Department. Officer Anthony Flores is a 12-year veteran of the Tucson Police Department. Both officers are assigned to the Field Response Unit.

Homicide Detectives are conducting a criminal investigation into the incident. Personnel from the Office of Internal Affairs continue a separate and parallel administrative investigation, examining the actions of department personnel in response to this incident. This type of post-shooting administrative review is standard protocol when an officer discharges their weapon in the line of duty, and is utilized to determine whether department policies were followed, and if current training, equipment, supervision, and policies are adequate and appropriate.

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